

VERONICA FILIFORMIS A WEED OF LAWNS AND GARDENS.—To the list of attractive, dainty and yet “weedy” Veronicas or Speedwells must be added the Creeping Speedwell, *Veronica filiformis* Smith, introduced into the United States from Asia Minor. Placed in a rock-garden or flower-bed this at first delightful addition will in a few years, by vegetative growth, “take over” the bed and encroach on the lawn. It has been said of this plant that if a person once puts it on his property, he will always have something growing there! The ability to flourish in partial shade as well as in the open, on slopes and in somewhat adverse situations not suitable for other plants appeals to some people who are pleased to find a plant which readily makes a much needed and satisfactory ground-cover or helps to hold soil on a terrace or bank.

In New York State *Veronica filiformis* behaves as a perennial, the stems remaining alive over winter and producing a new growth of branches from their axillary buds the next spring. In central New York this plant has completely overrun many lawns and presents a difficult control-problem. Professor Fernald informed me that Mr. Bayard Long has sent it to him from lawns of southeastern Pennsylvania.

Veronica filiformis has two weaknesses: (1) It is susceptible to attack by the fungus *Sclerotium Rolfsii* Saccardo which kills it and causes brown patches on infested lawns; (2) Under New York conditions I have never observed a single capsule maturing and developing seeds. Whether this behavior is general is a question. If any readers of this note have observed seed-production by this species I should greatly appreciate hearing from them.—W. C. MUENSCHER, Department of Botany, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

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¹ ALFRED REHDER: *Bibliography of Cultivated Trees and Shrubs hardy in the cooler temperate regions of the Northern Hemisphere*. ARNOLD ARBORETUM OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY, Jamaica Plain, Mass. 1949. Large 4° xl + 825 pp. \$20.00.